Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00933 140102Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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R 1310005Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8223

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 0933

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SWEL TBIO PORG LA US

SUBJECT: LPDR EXPECTATION OF DDT DELIVERY FROM UNITED STATES

- 1. ACTING WHO REPRESENTATIVE IN LAOS INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICER JUNE 8 THAT DR. KHAMKEO, CHIEF OF PLANNING OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH, HAD TOLD HIM THAT DR. PETER BOURNE, DURING HIS VISIT TO VIENTIANE AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN GENEVA, HAD INDICATED USG WILLINGNESS TO GIVE LPDR 1200 TONS OF DDT (WORTH \$1.5 MILLION AT WORLD PRICE) FOR 1978.
- 2. WHO REP SAID THAT LAO REQUIREMENT FOR DDT IN 1978 WOULD RUN TO ABOUT 200 TOONS. HE HAD INDICATED TO THE LAO THAT THE REQUIREMENT FOR THAT YEAR MIGHT BE 600 TONS BUT ADMITTED THAT THIS ESTIMATE DID NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE FACT THAT SOME AREAS OF LAOS WERE INACCESSIBLE TO GOVERNMENT.
- 3. I KNOW THAT DR. BOURNE MADE NO SUCH OFFER DURING HIS VISIT IN VIENTIANE AND SUSPECT THAT THERE IS SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF WHO REP'S INFORMANTS. HOWEVER, IF LPDR FAILS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ITS NORMAL SUPPLIER IN THE EXPECTATION OF A UNITED STATES GIFT THAT DOES NOT MATERIALIZE, THE RESULT COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDERABLE EMBARASSMENT AND CONFUSION. QUESTION IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY REPORT (HONG KONG 6503) THAT STAUFFER FAR EAST LIMITED DESIRES APPROACH LAO TO DISCUSS SALE OF DDT BY MONTROSE CHEMICAL OF CALIFORNIA.

4. I THINK I SHOULD PROBABLY TRY TO HEAD OFF PROBLEMS

HERE BY CONTACTING DR. KHAMLIENG PHOLSENA AND ASKING HIM WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT. HOWEVER, TO AVOID FURTHER CONFUSING WHAT SEEMS TO BE A CONFUSED SITUATION, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO HAVE FIRST ANY COMMENT DR. BOURNE MAY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT PASS THIS TELE-GRAM TO DR. BOURNE AT THE WHITE HOUSE. CORCORAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: DDT, PESTICIDES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 13-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI00933
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: X1 Errors: n/a

Expiration: Film Number: D770211-0207 Format: TEL From: VIENTIANE **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197706107/aaaafzfw.tel

Line Count: 75 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE Message ID: 8d0e9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SS

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2008910 Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970911

Subject: LPDR EXPECTATION OF DDT DELIVERY FROM UNITED STATES

TAGS: TBIO, LA, US, PORG, SWEL, WHO, (BOURNE, PETER)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8d0e9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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